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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/584,723	06/26/2006	Kouzou Odamura	920_087	6084
25191	7590	02/10/2009	EXAMINER	
BURR & BROWN PO BOX 7068 SYRACUSE, NY 13261-7068			HESS, BRUCE H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1794	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			02/10/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/584,723	Applicant(s) ODAMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner Bruce H. Hess	Art Unit 1794	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>06/26/06 and 03/10/08</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. Claims 2-5 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 USC 112 (2) as being indefinite for the reasons set forth below:

A. Claim 2 recites “transfer layer comprises a laminate”. Since the term “layer” is singular, it cannot be comprised of multiple layers (i.e., a “laminate”). One way of correcting this would be to change “a transparent transfer layer” in claim 1 to “transparent transfer layers”; and

B. Claims 2-5 and 7-9 recite “hologram transfer layer comprising a hologram layer”. The phrase “comprising a hologram layer” is redundant.

2. Claims 1-5 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by either of the patents to Tone et al. (JP 2002-079797) or Tajima et al. (JP 2003-053898).

3. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either of the patents to Tone et al. or Tajima et al.

These patents teach thermal transfer sheets comprising a base material, a transferable transparent layer, an adhesive layer and a hologram image (see the International Search Report submitted by applicants). The selection of the form or pattern of the image constitutes an obvious design choice on the part of one of ordinary skill in this art.

4. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by either of the patents to Kobayashi et al. (JP 2003-220769) or Onishi et al. 9USP 6,290,798).

Art Unit: 1794

These patents teach thermal transfer sheets having a base material, protective layer 4 which inherently is transparent since if otherwise the image could not be seen, hologram pattern 7 and intervening layers which function as adhesive layers.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bruce H. Hess whose telephone number is (571)-272-1525. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on (571)-272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Bruce H Hess
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1794

/Bruce H Hess/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794